

The **Parks and Recreation Board** met Monday, December 20, 2004 at 4:30 pm at the Morton Community Center.

Present at said meeting were Mike Dana, Paula Woods, Leon Trachtman, Garnet Peck, Nancy Offutt and Attorney John Sorensen. Joe Payne, Pennie Ainsworth, Chris Foley, Brenda Lorenz, Brian Tunis and Cheryl Kolb represented the Department. Council members Gil Satterly and Ann Hunt were present. Absent was Council member Gerry Keen and department staff member Lee Booth.

Mike convened the Board at 4:40 pm.

The first item on the agenda was the approval of the minutes of the November 15 meeting. Leon motioned the minutes be approved as presented. Garnet seconded the motion, and the motion carried.

Superintendent – Joe reported on the following:

- Noted the Council Report was included in the mailing.
- Noted projects will be discussed later in the meeting.
- Passed brochure around showing pictures of the new banners that will hang between Morton Community Center and the West Lafayette Public Library.

Assistant Superintendent – Pennie reported on the following:

- Reported she has been working on entering all of the 2005 Winter/Spring class information onto the web site for the Parks and Recreation Department.

Parks – Brian reported in Lee's absence on the following:

- Noted the trail and playground inspections were available.
- Clean-up in and around the maintenance barn.
- Opened the rink slightly behind schedule due to weather.
- Grounds work throughout park system.

Recreation – Chris reported on the following:

- The Third grade basketball has 62 children participating. We have 13 volunteer coaches. The program will break for the holidays and resume in January. Terry Ness is the coordinator of the program.
- The rain and warm weather made it a tough start to the skating season, but the staff has done a great job keeping us open. We are currently open for the holiday schedule.
- Skate with Santa was a big hit this year with 40 registrants. Participants enjoyed donated Krispy Kreme donuts and hot cocoa.

Morton Center – Brenda reported on the following:

- The Morton Center final registration total for the fall session is 1,792 compared to last year's fall 1,663, an increase of 8%. The registration total for the year 2004 is 5,149 compared to last year's annual 4,953. That is an increase for the year of 4%.
- A baton clinic was held Dec. 6 in collaboration with the Purdue Band. The Purdue Twirling Line came and taught the clinic along with our baton instructor, Veronica Johnson. Fifty-two children registered for the clinic. The participants gave a performance at half time of the women's basketball game on Dec. 12. The kids had a great time!
- We have forty-two instructors teaching at Morton next semester, 5 of them new. There is a variety of classes available for adults and children.
- Morton will be closed December 23-January 3, re-opening on January 4.

During the shut down, new carpet will be installed in Room 106, the lounge, the elevator and the office.

Beautification & Stewardship – Brian reported on the following:

- Working on Tree City USA recertification.
- Earth Pros has adopted the Sycamore & Sagamore Parkway Adopt-A-Spot site.
- Recently lost long-term employee, Susy Jordan to a full-time position with the Valparaiso Parks & Recreation department.
- Wednesday in the Wild programs are scheduled for January and February 2005. A new feature is being added – Wandering Wednesdays for 2005.
- Helping with new trail layout and construction in Celery Bog Nature Area.

North West Soccer Club

B.J. Pheasant introduced himself and delivered a summary of the mission statement of the soccer organization that is gearing itself towards the 4-10 age groups. There is a scheduled callout on 01/08/05 and 01/15/05 at which they anticipate a target of 500-600 participants. Their current goal is to be up and running for three seasons, a spring, a fall, and another spring, for a total of 1 ½ years, before revisiting and making adjustments based on the groups needs. When asked if their group would be able to work with, or come to an agreement, with the Greater Lafayette Recreational Soccer Alliance, Mr. Pheasant's reply was there would probably be a conflict due to the philosophy and size of the fields required for their particular age group. The Board decided to table the item until the January meeting.

Old Business

NRO Budget

Chris presented and discussed the NRO Budget for 2005, noting further discussion should take place after the first of the year. Leon motioned to approve the 2005 NRO Budget as presented. Garnet seconded the motion, and the motion carried.

New Business

Park Board Elections

The nominating committee presented the slate of officers for the following two years:

President	-	Paula Woods
Vice President	-	Leon Trachtman
Secretary	-	Garnet Peck

Leon motioned to approve the slate as presented. Garnet seconded the motion, and the motion carried.

2005 Meeting Dates

The dates were presented and agreed upon at this time.

Part-Time Salaries

Chris presented the 2005 Part-Time Salaries, noting the different positions within the department. Leon motioned to approve the 2005 Part-Time Salaries as presented. Paula seconded the motion, and the motion carried.

West Lafayette School Board

Nancy stated the decision has been made to move Happy Hollow Elementary to the Burtfield School site. She distributed revised Financial Summaries to those in attendance of the meeting. She also distributed a copy of the Legislators article published in the Journal & Courier 12/18/04.

Wabash River Parkway Commission

Paula gave a brief report about on-going endeavors of the commission.

Other

Shelter Reservation Proposal Fees

Chris proposed increasing fees for 2005 shelter reservations to \$20.00 for five hours or less, up from \$15.00 for five hours or less. Additional hours would increase to \$5.00 per hour, up from \$3.00 per hour. Paula motioned to approve the fee increase as presented. Garnet seconded the motion, and the motion carried.

Full-Time Position

Brian reported in Lee's absence that Eric Reifel began employment with the department on 9/27/04 at a biweekly salary of \$1,149.45.

Crisis Center Fundraiser

The Crisis Center has requested to have the facility rental and skate rental fees waived for the Riverside Skating Center for a planned February 19 fundraising event. They are proposing a "penguin fling" as the fundraiser, which would be similar to the annual Rubber Duck race. They would like to incorporate the rink into the fundraising event. Garnet motioned to decline the request for the waiver of the skate rental fees as requested in the letter. Leon seconded the motion, and the motion carried. The staff will try to obtain additional information about the event, including the planned "penguin fling" for discussion at the next meeting.

Burn Camp Request

The Hoosier Burn Camp, Inc. has scheduled their first annual winter gathering on January 15, 2005. They have invited families to attend with their children and are requesting fees be waived for use of the Riverside Skating Center, along with skate rental fees. The consensus of the Board is to decline such requests.

Consulting Fees

Joe noted the Board of Works had approved two agreements with H. Stewart Kline and Associates, one for design services for projects in the Tapawingo Park area and one for the Wabash Pond/Wabash Heritage trail area, noting we still have part of a Wabash River Heritage Fund grant for development and restoration work for that area. He also noted they had approved an agreement with T.J. Gall and Associates for project coordination services for the Northwest Greenway Trail extension along Cumberland and Kent Avenues, along with other PRP-related work.

West Lafayette Pony League

The West Lafayette Pony League presented a request to use the Arni Cohen Softball Fields, along with a Certificate of Liability Insurance form during the period of 4/1/04-7/4/04. Garnet motioned to approve the request as presented. Leon seconded the motion, and the motion carried.

Purchase Orders

Joe presented the following purchase orders for approval:

P.O.	7651	Menards-South	3-235	\$ 2,521.50	Deck Lumber
	2551	J.L Anderson Htg & CIng	3-361	\$ 3,968.00	HH Pk House
	3485	Compuadds	3-443	\$ 1,759.67	HP LaserJet

Leon motioned to approve the purchase orders as presented. Garnet seconded the motion, and the motion carried.

Pay Claims

Leon motioned that claims be paid. Garnet seconded the motion, and the motion carried.

Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 6:05pm.

Presiding Officer

Secretary